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<http://www.radanovich.house.gov>



**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0519**

**GEORGE RADANOVICH**

19TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

June 13, 2007

**DISTRICT OFFICES**

1500 EAST HERNDON, SUITE 201  
FRESNO, CA 93720  
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**COMMENT LINE**  
(202) 478-6389

Roger C. Adams, Esq.  
United States Pardon Attorney  
Office of the Pardon Attorney  
United States Department of Justice  
1425 New York Ave. NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Adams,

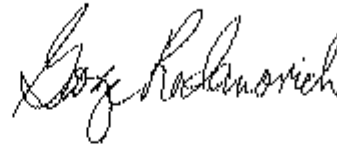
I am writing in support of the presidential pardon application submitted by the Law Office of Margaret Love, on behalf of Fred Thomas Franzia.

Mr. Franzia was convicted of a felony that took place eighteen years ago. At the time he fully accepted responsibility for his actions, and has since completely satisfied the terms of his sentence. He has shown his leadership and dedication to his community through his work with the Parent Resource Center of Modesto and the Community Hospice Foundation, as well as helping to provide for many members of his local parish. Mr. Franzia has also been working with the viticulture and enology departments at California State University Fresno and Purdue University. He has become a member of the advisory board at CSUFresno, and has been a substantial financial contributor to both universities.

He seeks a pardon, not for any specific limitation he has encountered due to the conviction, but because of the shame the conviction has brought upon himself, his children, his grandchildren and the family owned winery. Mr. Franzia understands that a pardon will not erase his past, but he hopes that it will provide forgiveness and peace of mind for himself and his family. He would like to continue the long tradition of winemaking in his family without the stigma of his poor business practices from eighteen years ago hanging over the company. Further, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, the government agency responsible for overseeing the alcoholic beverage industry, is willing to allow him to resume his corporate leadership role in the family winery. The agency believes that, through his actions over the past eighteen years since his conviction, Mr. Franzia has shown that he fully understands his wrong doing, and will maintain his corporation within the boundaries of the law.

I support the presidential pardon application submitted by the Law Office of Margaret Love, on behalf of Fred Thomas Franzia. Please give your full consideration to this application. Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Radanovich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Radanovich".

George Radanovich  
Member of Congress



U. S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D.C. 20530

JUL 11 2007

The Honorable George Radanovich  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Radanovich:

Thank you for your letter of June 13, 2007, supporting a pardon for Fred Thomas Franzia. Mr. Franzia's application for a pardon was received in the Office of the Pardon Attorney in February 2007, and is currently under consideration. Your views in his support are appreciated, and your letter has been made a part of his file. We will notify Mr. Franzia's attorneys promptly when final action has been taken on his application, and we will notify you as well.

Sincerely,

*Roger C. Adams*

Roger C. Adams  
Pardon Attorney

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**Washington, DC 20515-0519**

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COMMENT LINE  
(202) 478-5389

April 23, 2008

Mr. Fred F. Fielding  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Fielding,

I am writing to call your attention to a letter I submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice on June 13, 2007. I sent this letter to Pardon Attorney Mr. Roger C. Adams, in support of the Presidential pardon application submitted by the Law Office of Margaret Love, on behalf of Fred Thomas Franzia.

Mr. Franzia was convicted of a felony that took place eighteen years ago and he has completely satisfied the terms of his sentence. He seeks a pardon because of the shame the conviction has brought upon himself, his children, his grandchildren, and his family owned winery. He would like to continue the long tradition of winemaking in his family without the stigma of his poor business practices from eighteen years ago.

Mr. Franzia has shown that he fully understands his wrong doing, and will maintain his corporation within the boundaries of the law. I support the Presidential pardon application submitted by the Law Office of Margaret Love, on behalf of Fred Thomas Franzia. Please give your full consideration to this application. Thank you in advance for your time. This matter is important to me, and I would like to discuss it with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Radanovich".

George Radanovich  
Member of Congress

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Washington, DC 20515-0519

**GEORGE RADANOVICH**

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(202) 478-5389

May 7, 2008

Mr. Ronald L. Rodgers  
U.S. Pardon Attorney  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Rodgers:

I am writing to call your attention to a letter I originally sent to Pardon Attorney, Mr. Roger C. Adams, on June 13, 2007 and the most recent letter I sent to Mr. Fred Fielding on April 23, 2008. This letter was to express my support of the Presidential pardon application submitted by the Law Office of Margaret Love on behalf of Fred Thomas Franzia.

This Presidential pardon application is for the felony that Mr. Franzia was convicted of eighteen years ago. He has completely satisfied the terms of his sentence and has shown that he fully understands his wrong doing and will maintain his corporation within the boundaries of the law. Mr. Franzia's conviction has brought shame upon himself, his children, his grandchildren, and his family owned winery. This Presidential pardon will allow his family to continue the long tradition of winemaking without the stigma of Mr. Franzia's poor business practices from eighteen years ago.

I support the Presidential pardon application submitted by the Law Office of Margaret Love on behalf of Mr. Fred Thomas Franzia. I urge you to give your full consideration to this application. I would like to discuss this important matter with you further, and will be in touch to schedule a meeting at your convenience. Thank you in advance for your time.

Sincerely,

George Radanovich  
Member of Congress

Enclosures



U.S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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Washington, D. C. 20530

JUN - 9 2008

The Honorable George Radanovich  
United States House of Representatives  
2367 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0519

Dear Congressman Radanovich:

This is in response to your letter of May 7, 2008, expressing support for the application for presidential pardon filed by your constituent, Fred Thomas Franzia.

Mr. Franzia's application for pardon is currently under consideration. Your views in his support are appreciated, and your letter has been added to his executive clemency file. The pardon process frequently is lengthy, and we are unable to advise any given applicant when he may expect to receive a decision regarding his application. Please be assured, however, that we will notify Mr. Franzia promptly when final action has been taken on his pardon request.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Rodgers  
Pardon Attorney

FROM CONGRESSMAN

RADANOVICH DC OFFICE (WED) 11.17.04 15:46/ST. 15:46/NO. 4864775118 ? :

Michelle  
Caceron

B6

Merced, CA 95340  
(work)

October 28, 2004

The Hon. George Radanovich  
United States House of Representatives  
438 Cannon House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Radanovich,

Our family lives in Merced. I am writing to ask your office to assist us in advancing the presidential pardon application of my father, Jess A. Rodriguez. This application seems to have become stuck in the bureaucracy without resolution.

B6

He was convicted in the US District Court Northern District of California (USA v. Rodriguez; Case No. CR-94-20031-RMW) and sent to prison.

The principal charges were soon overturned by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, but not before my father had spent over a year and a half in prison. When my father went back to the court for resentencing, he was promptly sentenced to time served and released, with the judge noting that had Mr. Rodriguez only been convicted of the minor charges which were not overturned, he would not have received even the prison sentence he actually served, if any.

My father was not daunted by the time he spent in prison and he returned to business, creating a successful nursery employing well over 50 people and doing real estate projects throughout the Central Valley as well as continuing his lifelong commitment to local charity work. Although we all felt he had been railroaded and should never have been charged, much less convicted, he was as productive as ever. In spite of his undeserved status as a convicted felon. Born and raised in Merced, my father was a respected and celebrated member of the community whose name deserves to be cleared.

B6

Going through the proper channels, my father filed an application for pardon with the Office of the Pardon Attorney (U.S. Department of Justice). he traveled to Washington D.C. a number of times to meet with the Pardon Attorney and his staff.

As far as we know, his application is still working its way through the bureaucracy.

With his passing, my father's pardon application has stalled, it shouldn't. As much as he deserved a pardon to clear his name during his life, our family, who continue to work hard and contribute to the community, deserve the clearing of our family's name. I would like your staff to assist me in convincing the Pardon Office to advance his conviction to approval and issue. Our attorney has all necessary details re: my father's case history and pending application and can forward these to your staff.

Thank You,



U. S. Department of Justice

Pardon Attorney

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*Washington, D.C. 20530*

MAY 17 2005

The Honorable George Radanovich  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Radanovich:

I wanted to follow up on a telephone conversation of May 13, 2005 with two members of your staff concerning your late constituent, Jess A. Rodrigues. Initially, the Rules Governing Petitions for Executive Clemency (28 CFR §§1.1 - 1.11), a copy of which I have enclosed for your convenience, provide that a person must wait five years from the time he is released from incarceration before he is eligible to apply for a Presidential pardon. Mr. Rodrigues submitted a pardon petition almost as soon as he had completed the five year waiting period, and it arrived in my office on March 2, 2004.

My normal procedure upon receiving a pardon petition is to send a letter of acknowledgment to the applicant and to contact the U.S. Probation Office for the federal district in which the person was convicted (in Mr. Rodrigues's case the Northern District of California). I usually am able to do this within a week or so, but in Mr. Rodrigues's case I remembered that my office had extensive contact with him in 1999 and 2000 and I wanted to obtain and peruse the material generated at that time – including a detailed letter that I recalled having sent to him describing why I would not waive the five-year waiting period and allow him to apply for a pardon at that time – before beginning work on his case. Consequently, I did not write to Mr. Rodrigues or to the U.S. Probation Office in San Francisco until April 26, 2004.

On that date, I wrote to Mr. Rodrigues at the residential address he had set out in his pardon petition, but a few weeks later the letter was returned by the Postal Service with a notation that it was to be returned to the sender and that no forwarding address was available. (Your staff has subsequently confirmed for me that the Post Office Box in Soquel, California to which I addressed the above-mentioned letter to Mr. Rodrigues in March 2000 was still the address at which his family receives mail.) At about the same time, I got my letter to Mr. Rodrigues back from the Postal Service, I received a letter from the U.S. Probation Office informing me that Mr. Rodrigues had died.

While fortunately it is fairly unusual for a pardon applicant to die while his application is pending, this has happened in the past. My usual procedure in this situation is to close the case



administratively and not attempt to contact a relative, especially if the death occurs very shortly after the pardon petition is received and we have not had a chance to do any significant work on the case. Understandably, close relatives of the decedent are emotionally distraught over their loss, and it has always seemed to me unnecessary and inappropriate to add to their loss by reminding them that the pardon request will not be processed. (As you probably know, posthumous pardons are so exceedingly rare that to communicate with relatives, which would invariably prompt them to ask for such a pardon, is not a wise idea, in my view.) In any event, that was the procedure I followed in Mr. Rodríguez's case.

I am certainly sorry if Mr. Rodríguez's relatives thought that his case was pending and that my office had simply not done anything on it. As explained above, that was not the case, and my office's not contacting his relatives was the result of trying to spare them from a further sense of disappointment over the fact that, as a practical matter, his death precludes his getting a pardon. Moreover, as noted, my effort to contact Mr. Rodríguez when I thought he was still alive had been unsuccessful because he apparently did not receive mail at his home.

I hope the above is of assistance to you. If you or your staff have any further questions, I would be pleased to try to address them.

Sincerely,



Roger C. Adams  
Pardon Attorney

Enclosure